

## PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

1. **AUTHORITY:** (1) COMDTINST M5830.1; (2) COMDTINST 5810.1D
2. **PRINCIPLE PURPOSES:** The information solicited will be used for the following purposes:
  - a. To establish the facts and circumstances surrounding the deaths of LT Jessica Hill and BM2 Steven Duque on 17 August 2006 on board the USCGC HEALY.
  - b. To make any determinations required in the course of U.S. Coast Guard administration.
3. **ROUTINE USES:** To assist U.S. Coast Guard Management decision-making.
4. **CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO DISCLOSE:** Disclosure is voluntary, but if you do not provide the requested information, any determinations or evaluations made as a result of this investigation will be made on the basis of the evidence contained in the investigative record.

[REDACTED]

8/21/06

[REDACTED]

Below is a summary of interview of [REDACTED], Science Party, conducted by the AIM informal board on August 21 2006 concerning the diving incident which resulted in two deaths on August 17, 2006. AIM board members present at the interview were [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] is a scientist studying seismic data aboard HEALY for this phase of the deployment. He came aboard in Barrow, Alaska. His e-mail is: [REDACTED] and his phone number is [REDACTED].

On 17 August, he had been up most of the night working on a science operation that began in the early morning. The ship did a combination of science and flight ops all morning, beginning at about 0400 and concluded around noon. He was exhausted and went to bed following the science operation.

He was awoken by a pipe announcing ice liberty. He thought it would be fun to walk on the ice, so he got up and made his way to the bow. He noticed many people walking, laughing, talking and milling about having a good time. He saw that there was alcohol on the ice, and decided to have a beer. He later had another. He had heard there was a two beer max from another scientist. He saw many of the officers also on the ice – CO, XO and OPS. Maybe the EO too, but he can't remember.

He wandered over to the bow of the ship and saw what looked like a dive operation. He said it looked like a couple of the divers were having equipment problems. The process was unfolding slowly so he decided to wander around some more. He saw a friend [REDACTED], a fellow scientist, in her bathing suit. She told him she was going to do a polar bear swim. [REDACTED] thought that was an interesting idea and decided to watch. He said a few more people also jumped in.

He had been away from the dive operation for about 10 minutes when he looked over and saw there were 4 or 5 people on each of the tending lines. They seemed to be pulling the divers up slowly – about a foot per second. [REDACTED] thought he noticed that the CO was watching. He heard someone say the "lines were crossed."

He had been taking pictures of ice liberty and now focused on the dive operation itself. To his recollection the divers suited up at 1740, entered the water at 1811, left the surface at about 1821 and returned to the surface at 1845 or so. This was the only dive he had seen aboard HEALY. Diving only came up once the entire cruise – very early on at a meeting. He tried to take pictures of the entire sequence.

ENCLOSURE(115)